

COLGATE & COMPANY JERSEY CITY PLANT: E-1
(Colgate-Palmolive Company Jersey City Plant: E-1)
25 Grand Street
Jersey City
Hudson County
New Jersey

HAER No. NJ-71-II

HAER
NJ
9-JERC1,
18II-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
Northeast Field Area
Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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- Location: 25 Grand Street, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey
- Significance: E-1 served as the principal finished products storage facility at the Colgate Jersey City plant c1921-50, and was later converted for laboratory and print shop purposes. Although not an individually significant structure, E-1 was significant as a component of the Colgate plant.
- Description: E-1 was a 6-story, pile-supported reinforced-concrete structure at the southeast corner of Grand and Hudson streets, and occupied a 125-by-100 foot site. Vertical piers divided the Grand Street facade into five bays, and the Hudson Street facade into four bays.

Ornamentation was limited to a combination of restrained classicism and Mission elements. The Grand Street ground floor facade consisted of a pedestrian door and truck bay in the easternmost bay, a truck door flanked by steel sash windows in the next bay east, steel sash windows in the third and fourth bays, and a single truck door in the fifth bay. Relief letters spelled out COLGATE & CO. above the central bay. The second floor had several types of steel sash windows. The third floor had a single multi-paned window in the easternmost bay, and multiple casements with glass-bottom panels in all other bays until the early 1950s, when the third bay window was replaced by a pedestrian bridge leading to K-Block to the north. The fourth and fifth floor Grand Street windows were glass block infill; a simple cornice separated the fourth from the fifth floors, along the original finished building line. The sixth floor on Grand Street had a single multi-paned steel sash window and a pair of double-hung casement windows in the easternmost bay, and double hung windows in the remaining bays. The Hudson Street facade was essentially the same as the Grand Street facade, with some variations in window infill treatment. All windows on these two facades had concrete sills, below which were rectangular concrete panels. The parapet had concrete coping, and decorative stepped parapets with inset diamond panels below shallow gables at the corners.

Brick buildings once abutted E-1 on the south and east sides. E-1 on these sides had brick facades, parged with cement, and no decoration. Only the fifth and sixth floors facing the water to the east, and the upper four stories on the south side, had windows.

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Two steel-framed, metal-clad bridges entered the northwest corner of E-1 at the fourth floor: a pedestrian and conveyor bridge from B-8, and a conveyor running along the north side of C-Block. Interior column and beam arrangements in E-1 were somewhat asymmetrical, to accommodate the support of these bridges. A similar pedestrian bridge, noted above for the third floor and partially supported by a steel frame against the wall of E-1, crossed Grand Street between E-1 and K-2 (HAER No. NJ-71-QQ).

In 1988 the first floor was a garage and paint/maintenance shop, above which interior finishes were modern, either concrete or recent panel partitions. Prior to the phased removal of manufacturing activity at the Jersey City plant, the second floor of E-1 served principally as storage space for the print shop, which occupied the sixth floor. There were offices and other storage areas on the third floor. Laboratories for packaging materials and finished product quality assurance occupied, respectively, the fourth and fifth floors.

History:

The extensive increase in Colgate & Co. manufacturing facilities c1903-18 required more storage space for finished products. Architect W. T. Field and Colgate engineer Warren Davey designed E-1 in 1921-22 as a 4-story structure for storage and garage space, allowing for a 2-story enlargement which Davey designed in 1927. Turner Construction Company erected both building phases. E-1 served in part as a facility for transferring finished products from factories west of Hudson Street to F-Block, where Colgate handled rail and ship freighting in a variety of older frame, brick, and metal buildings. Overhead conveyors formerly moved finished products into both E- and F-Blocks. The firm's successful expansion after World War II into synthetic detergents soon required new, enlarged storage and quality control facilities. Rebuilding of much of F-Block as a much larger warehouse met the first need (see HAER No. NJ-71-KK). Architects William Newman & Sons redesigned E-1 in 1949 for use as a printing shop and quality assurance laboratories. E-1 was demolished in 1989.

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Sources:

All drawings listed below are currently (1991) held by the Colgate-Palmolive Company. For future access, researchers should contact the company's Office of Corporate Communications, 300 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

Field, W.T.

1921 Hudson St. & Grand St. Elevations - Colgate & Co. Drawing 1851.

Davey, Warren, and W.T. Field

1921 Colgate & Co. [Series of drawings prepared October - December 1921 for Turner Construction Company]:

836-1	Grand Street Elevation	836-9A	Present Roof Finish Plan
836-2	Hudson St. Elevation	836-10	Column Schedule - Colgate & Co. Carage
836-3	South & East Elevation	836-11	Stair No. 1
836-4	Pile Plan	836-12	Stair No. 3
836-5	Footing Plan	836-13	Stair Section
836-8	3rd Floor Plan	836-14	6th Floor Plan
836-9	4th-5th Floor Plan	836-[?]	Roof Plan - Colgate & Co.

Davey, Warren

1927 Colgate & Co. Addition to Warehouse [Series of drawings prepared October 1927 for Turner Construction Company]:

1190-1	Grand Street Elevation	1190-7	Partition Plans
1190-2	Hudson Street Elevation	1190-8	6th Story Floor and 5th Floor Ceiling
1190-3	South & East Elevations	1190-9	6th Story Ceiling
1190-5	Roof Plan	1190-H1	Roof Drainage
1190-6	Column Schedule, Colgate & Co. Carage		

William Neumann & Sons, Architects

1949 Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co., Plant No. 1, Jersey City, NJ.
Building E-1 [Series of drawings prepared November - December 1949 for 3rd & 4th floors]:

1 Existing	existing 3rd floor plan	E-1 to E-4	4 drawings, electrical
2 Existing	existing 4th floor plan	F-1 to F-2	2 drawings, sprinklers
1	3rd floor plan	V-1 to V-2	2 drawings, ventilation
2	4th floor plan	H-1 to H-3	3 drawings, heating
3	Details	S-1 to S-2	2 drawings, plumbing
P-1 to P-3	4 drawings, piping		

Historians:

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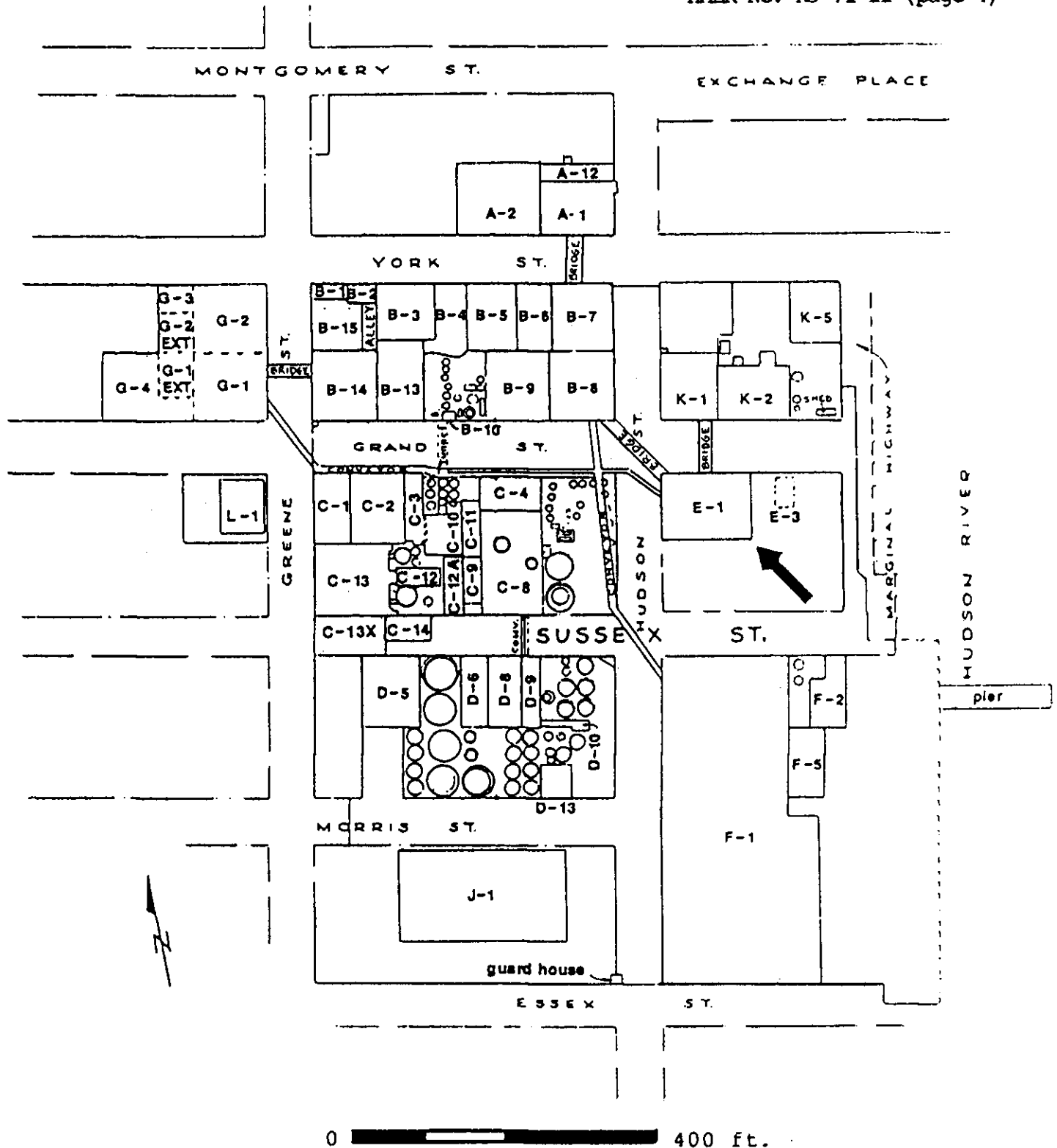
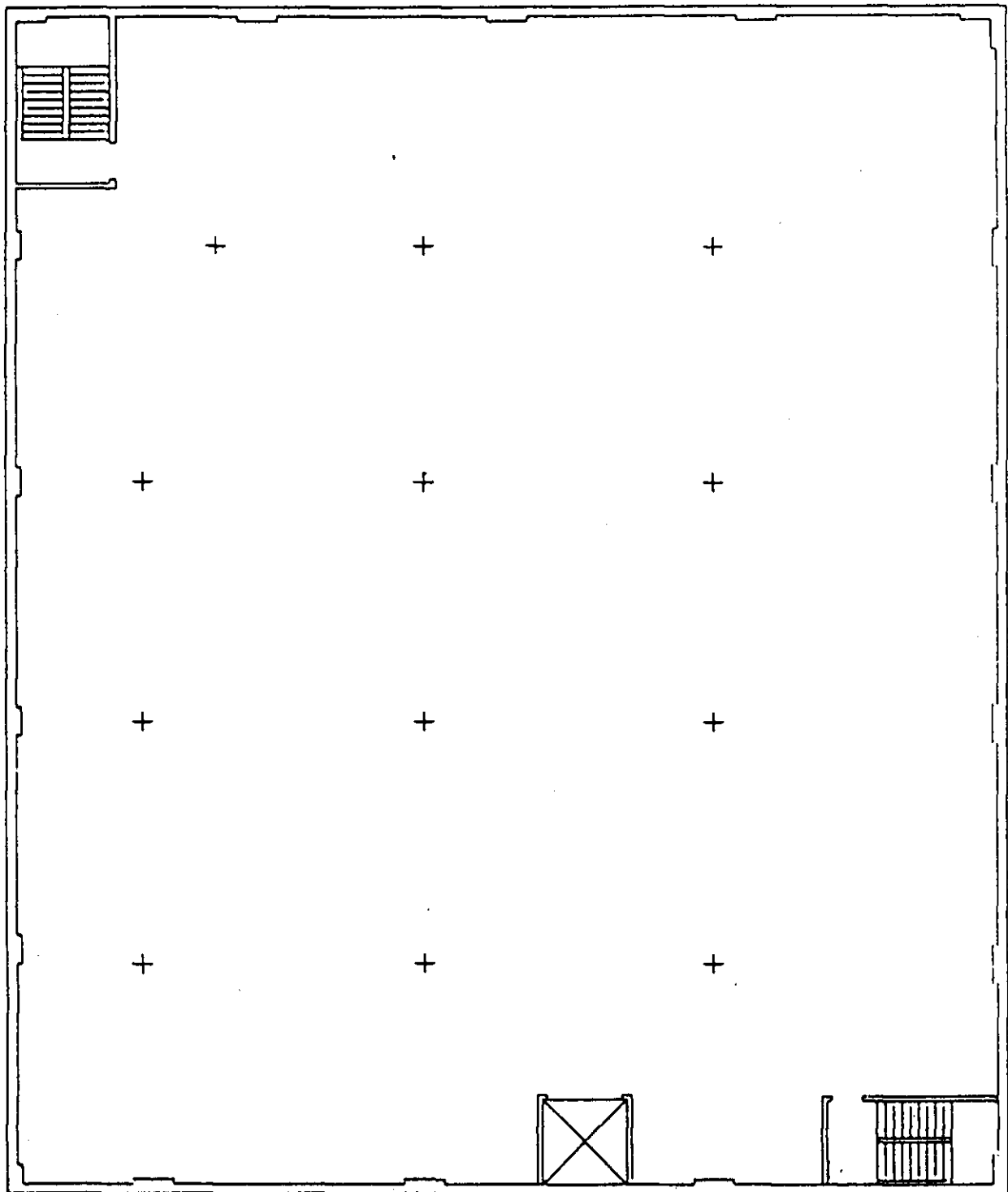


Figure 1. LOCATION OF E-1 AT COLGATE JERSEY CITY PLANT

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Figure 2. E-1 TYPICAL UPPER FLOOR PLAN
Scale: 1" = 16'